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CIA Called a Dump For Campaign Claims

United Press International

Sen. Margaret Chase Smith charged yesterday that the Central Intelligence Agency seems to have become "a dumping ground for the 1960 campaign statements of candidate Kennedy" which are coming back to haunt him as President.

The Maine Republican's remarks referred to charges by Mr. Kennedy that the Republicans were responsible for a so-called missile gap between Russia and the United States. Mrs. Smith made her statement in a radio-television interview with Sen. Kenneth B. Keating (R-N. Y.), for stations in New York State.

Although names were not mentioned, Mrs. Smith's remarks seemed to be aimed at an exchange between Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.), and Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara which was made public a week ago in hearings of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Symington contended that the missile gap was created and destroyed by CIA's downward revisions of its estimate

of Russian missile strength. McNamara stated that U. S. estimates of Russian intercontinental ballistic missile power have been "very substantially" reduced and said the concern about a missile-gap was voiced "in good faith."

Keating asked Mrs. Smith whether intelligence agencies should be blamed. She replied that she is "very skeptical about putting the hot potato of the missile myth on the doorstep of the CIA."

"The CIA is becoming a catch-all to cover up the 1960 campaign statements of candidate Kennedy which are coming back to haunt him as President," she said.

She added that she does not have a very high regard for the past work of the CIA in such matters as "the Cuban fiasco and the U-2 disaster." But, she added, "now it is being used as a dumping ground for the 1960 campaign statements of candidate Kennedy."

"I believe it needs to have a more useful purpose than that," she said.